

REMARKS

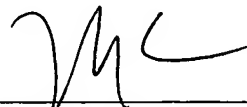
Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, claims 1-25. It is respectfully submitted that examination of all claims simultaneously would place no undue burden on the Examiner, as examination of claims 26-28 necessarily entails a search of the subject matter of claims 1-25. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the examination of claims 26-28 together present no significant burden over the examination of 1-25 alone, as all claims include features that include a tie-layer that includes a silane.

As Examiner knows, for a restriction requirement to be valid, the Examiner must establish that the search and examination of the entire application cannot be made without serious burden (see MPEP §803). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request examination of all claims simultaneously.

CONCLUSION

Applicants consider the Response herein to be fully responsive to the referenced Office Action. Based on the above Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance is requested. If there are any remaining issues or the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at 617-832-1746.

Respectfully submitted,



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